



**KING COUNTY  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

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**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, June 25, 2003**

4:00-5:30 PM

Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building  
821 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attending:**

Roger Goodman (Co-Chair/KCASAAB)

Howard Miller (KCMHAB)

Eleanor Owen (Co-Chair/KCMHAB)

Ron Sterling (KCMHAB)

**Absent:**

Linda Brown (KCASAAB)

Mindy Meyring (KCMHAB)

Jim Harbaugh (KCASAAB)

Clifford Thruston (KCMHAB)

**Visitors:**

Frank Jose (NAMI GS)

**Staff:**

Amnon Shoenfeld

Sherry Hamilton

It was noted that several members were no longer on the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee due to departure from the Mental Health Board, work schedules or focusing of interests in other areas. The past input, support and participation of Bob Seidensticker, Alice Howell and Pam Detrick was and is appreciated.

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(206) 205-1324 or (206) 205-1136

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**I. Introductions were dispensed with since all knew each other.**

**II. Meeting minutes from the May 27, 2003 meeting, were approved.**

**III. Budget – Report and updated**

Sherry reported on the budget indicating that the efforts of the committee, the boards and staff were successful. The budgets for both Mental Health and Chemical Dependency were not significantly hurt. Mental Health will receive no rate cuts and the MIOCTP will continue with funding from the Mental Health Federal Block Grant. Chemical Dependency's budget actually increased with additional focus to be placed on criminal justice.

On the negative side, fewer children will be served because of changes in eligibility or because they will be required to pay a premium. The Legislature established a co-pay for children whose household income was greater than 170% of the federal poverty level but less than 250% of the federal poverty level.

A limited prescription drug bill passed, SB 6088. This was a great success and was two years in the works.

**IV. Committee Structure**

- A discussion of the need to streamline and energize the committee began with the following:
  - Board members who agree to be a part of the committee need to attend the committee meetings.
  - Howard Miller speaking as Board Chair of the MHAB, noted that the MHAB will be reviewing the section of the by-laws establishing the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee and will be recommending a change. The change to be presented will recommend a single board chair, who is a member of either board, and the inclusion of community representation on the committee as determined by the committee.
  - Roger Goodman noted that KCASAAB will also review its by-laws to see if a change is necessary to be consistent with the MHAB.
  - The purpose of the committee was discussed. It was noted that the purpose of the committee continues to be to gather information for the boards, analyze & make recommendations to boards regarding legislative the public policy issues; communication between the committee and the boards should be excellent as both boards' chairs are members of the

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- committee; the committee is an advocate for the boards' during the legislative session.
- Discussion of the legislative agendas of the boards, the division and the executive followed.
  - Further discussion followed on various ways to streamline and energize the committee.

The following motion was made by Ron Sterling:

*I move that the committee structure be changed to a rotating committee chairperson and vice-chairperson. The Committee Chairperson and Committee Vice Chairperson shall be members of either the King County Mental Health Advisory Board or the King County Alcoholism Substance Abuse Administrative Board; however, both will not be members of the same board. The Chairperson shall hold a one-year term beginning in June. Each June a new Chairperson and new Vice-chairperson shall be elected. The new Chairperson shall be not be from the same board as the outgoing Chairperson.*

Roger Goodman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

*Howard Miller moved that nomination be opened for the position of Committee Chairperson and Committee Vice-Chairperson; Eleanor Owen seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.*

*Roger Goodman opened nominations for Committee Chairperson. Howard Miller nominated Roger Goodman. No other nominations were made, Roger Goodman was elected Committee Chairperson.*

*Roger Goodman opened nominations for Committee Vice-Chairperson. Eleanor Owen was nominated. No other nominations were made; Eleanor Owen was elected Committee Vice-Chairperson.*

- Discussion of the criteria for establishing membership on the committee by community representatives was tabled due to time constraints.

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**V. Legislative Forum**

- The Legislative Forum will be held at the Kirkland Performing Arts Center November 18, 2003 from 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM with initial registration beginning at 7:00 PM.
- A beginning discussion of the structure of the forum and Committee Chairperson asked everyone to take until the next committee meeting to think about both the structure of the forum and the legislative agenda for the forum.
- It was agreed that thank you letter to our legislators needs to go out from the Board Chair. Geoff Miller agreed to draft the letter.

**VI. Set Agenda for July 23, 2003 meeting, which will be held as follows:**

July 23, 2003 4 PM to 5:30 PM Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building 821 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave., Seattle, WA 98104
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*For information call Geoff Miller, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (206) 205-1136.*

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